



Washtenaw County Food Policy Council (WFPC)
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2026; 9:00 – 10:30 AM
Learning Resource Center (LRC) Michigan Room & Zoom

ATTENDEES

Council Members:

Present

1. Noelle Blasch
2. Justin Hodge
3. Crystal Lecoq
4. Peter Lindeman
5. Alexander McKay
6. Brian Meko
7. Lunia Oriol
8. Andrew Paniagua
9. Nicholas Pomante
10. Chrissy Taylor
11. Anna Taylor-McCants
12. Amanda Villescas
13. Kelly Wilson

Absent

1. Preeti Gadhoke
2. Ava HeberkornHalm
3. Sierra Lambert

WFPC Support Staff:

1. Russell O'Brien – Washtenaw County Health Department (WCHD)

Other Attendees:

1. Mitch Seymour
2. Georgia, Rep. Dingell's Office
3. Hannah Lang
4. Rachel Lipson

MEETING NOTES

9:05-9:08am

1. Opening/Introductions

a) Council members please share the following:

i. Shallow Intros: Name, Affiliation, Seat, and Area of Interest

ii. Location: Municipality, County, State (If virtual)

- Noelle Blasch – In-Person.
- Justin Hodge – Attending remotely.
- Crystal Lecoq – In-Person.
- Peter Lindeman – In-person.
- Alex McKay – In-person.
- Brian Meko – In-Person.
- Lunia Oriol – Attending remotely from Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.
- Andrew Paniagua – Attending remotely from Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.
- Nicholas Pomante – Attending remotely from Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, MI.
- Chrissy Taylor – Attending remotely from Canton, Wayne County, MI.
- Anna Taylor-McCants – In-Person.
- Amanda Villescas – Attending remotely from Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.
- Kelly Wilson – Attending remotely from Ypsilanti Township, Washtenaw County, MI.

b) Icebreaker

- No icebreaker this meeting.

2. Agenda, Minutes Addition/Deletions/Approval – Anna

9:08-9:11am

a) Previous Meeting Minutes (May) – VOTE

- Motion: To approve the May 13, 2026 meeting minutes.
 - 1) *Motion: Alex McKay, Seconded: Brian Meko*
 - 2) *Approved: Yes-12, No-0 (12 council members present at time of vote)*

b) Meeting Agenda (June) – VOTE

- Motion: To approve the June 10, 2026 meeting agenda, with the removal of the icebreaker.
 - 1) *Motion: Noelle Blasch, Seconded: Crystal Lecoq*
 - 2) *Approved: Yes-12, No-0 (12 council members present at time of vote)*

3. Public Comment – Anna

9:11-9:11am

- None.

4. Council Member Share Out – Alex or Anna

9:11-9:12am

- Share outs are scheduled for September and October.
- Skipping so there is more time for the working session.

5. PAT Updates – Anna

9:12-9:19am

a) Food Waste & Packaging – Noelle

- Noelle said the Resolution In Support Of Coordinating The Donation Of Surplus Food From County Events To Pathways For Human Consumption passed at the May 20th Board of Commissioners (BOC) meeting. MSU Extension finalized the resource guide they were working on. It will be discussed at the PAT meeting next week.

b) Food Access & Nutrition (FAN)– Dayna & Kelly

- Kelly said they went through the Resilient Washtenaw Plan and discussed how the priorities align with the PAT and the full council.
- The Health Department will update their food access resource webpage this week.
- The next meeting is Monday June 22nd at 3:30pm.

c) Planning & Zoning – Lunia & Peter

- Lunia said there are no major updates. The last meeting was canceled and the next meeting is Tuesday July 28th 3-4pm.

d) Pollinators – Mitch

- Crystal said she recruited Rachel Lipson from Adapt Community Supported Ecology to chair or co-chair the PAT since Mitch is stepping down. Rachel joined virtually and introduced herself.

e) Inclusive Justice – Vacant

- None.

6. Working Session

9:19-10:28am

a) Election Year Outreach – Kelly & Andrew

- Andrew discussed options for outreach opportunities surrounding the election. He and Kelly put together some ideas for how the WFPC can engage in the election. The WFPC has done this in the past. Kelly went over 3 action ideas:
 1. Candidate Forum – Was done previously in 2020. Discussed the previous process.
 2. Food policy brief for candidates – Identify which state/county level policies are impacting food access. Aim for post primary timing and pair with an invitation to the candidate forum.
 3. Voter registration promotion.
- Andrew pointed out that this would be done mindfully, no specific candidates would be promoted, and equal time would be given to all candidates if the candidate forum was selected.
- Feedback was given. Anna and Nick said they like the first 2 ideas. Voter registration promotion is done by many different groups. Alex said he likes option 2 and questioned if many of the races are competitive. Kelly said regardless of whether the races are competitive, it is a good change to educate on the issues of food and nutrition access.
- If the council moves forward on these, Andrew and Kelly will help guide the process.

b) Strategic Planning Session for Washtenaw Climate Action Plan – Peter

- Peter lead a strategic planning session around the Washtenaw Climate Action Plan. He said the point is to identify concrete ways to create momentum toward the goals.
- The group went through a consensus building workshop, looked at the goals in the Resilient Washtenaw Plan, and identified a few steps for each to get the ball rolling.
- Council members began by writing down specific ideas for each of the 7 goals that the WFPC could do or advocate for.
- Meeting attendees divided into breakout rooms to discuss their ideas. Peter gathered all of the information from the small group discussions.
- Anna mentioned the need for more staff to help with implementing the ideas.
- The next step is identifying the role of the WFPC and working with the Resiliency Office on specific ideas.

c) Resilient Washtenaw – Chrissy & Kelly

- Discussed in the PAT updates.

7. Open Comment (Council Members and Public)

10:28-10:28am

- Justin Hodge said the BOC passed both resolutions, Pollinator Week and Coordinating The Donation Of Surplus Food From County Events To Pathways For Human Consumption. He commented at the BOC meeting that the WFPC would work on a 1-pager cheat sheet for county departments on what to do with leftover food.

8. Adjourn – VOTE

10:28-10:29am

- Motion: To adjourn meeting.
 - 1) *Motion: Alex McKay, Seconded: Peter Lindeman*
 - 2) *Approved: Yes-13, No-0 (13 council members present at time of vote)*

ACTION ITEMS

- Include Election Year Outreach on the July meeting agenda.

RECORDED VOTES

1. **Motion 1:** To approve the May 2026 meeting minutes.
 - a. Approved: Yes-12, No-0
2. **Motion 2:** To approve the June 2026 meeting agenda.
 - a. Approved: Yes-12, No-0
3. **Motion 3:** To adjourn the June 2026 meeting.
 - a. Approved: Yes-13, No-0

CHAT TRANSCRIPT

2026-06-10 09:20:38 From Andrew Paniagua (he/él), Food Gatherers to Everyone:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/140WoCnSYHoTD3WJfoE_PN0FqovFbphO2HKiTJ4D538E/edit?tab=t.0

2026-06-10 09:21:53 From Peter Lindeman to WCHD (direct message):

Can you re-add me as host? I got kicked from zoom and lost access

2026-06-10 09:30:58 From Andrew Paniagua (he/él), Food Gatherers to Everyone:

Andrew.paniagua@foodgatherers.org

2026-06-10 09:33:36 From Peter Lindeman to WCHD (direct message):

<https://canva.link/s3k4jcsqd99c0rd> for our working session

2026-06-10 09:33:59 From Peter Lindeman to Everyone:

<https://canva.link/s3k4jcsqd99c0rd> for our working session

2026-06-10 09:34:25 From Kelly Wilson (she/her) - Trinity Health to Everyone:

Peter, do you have a non-canva link?

2026-06-10 10:03:08 From Peter Lindeman to Everyone:

Make sure you are moving through all of the ideas and goals. We are in groups for 8-10 more minutes, so make sure you are verbalizing and sharing everything. Again breadth is more important than depth at this point. Hear all of the ideas!

2026-06-10 10:11:49 From Peter Lindeman to Everyone:

If you've been talking a lot lately. Awesome, but maybe it's time to make some space for others. If you've been more quiet. That's okay, but try taking some space for yourselves in the last few minutes of group time.

2026-06-10 10:12:22 From Peter Lindeman to Everyone:

Make sure you are putting stars by your favorites, or bolding and underlining the topics you are hearing other people say.

2026-06-10 10:21:28 From Peter Lindeman to Everyone:

ptlindem@gmail.com

2026-06-10 10:28:28 From Kelly Wilson (she/her) - Trinity Health to Everyone:

Thank you, Peter! Appreciate your time to facilitate this conversation, organize our ideas and keep us moving forward.

2026-06-10 10:28:32 From Chrissy Taylor, JFS of Washtenaw County to Everyone:

Thank you Peter!!

2026-06-10 10:28:44 From Andrew Paniagua (he/él), Food Gatherers to Everyone:

Thanks Peter!